

Every Wednesday Morning,
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tions may be addressed.

Our Future Supply of Sugar.

The consumption of sugar in the United States has been steadily increasing, even in a greater ratio than the number of our population, yet at the same time the amount produced in our own country has been as regularly decreasing. This result may be attributed in some measure to the ravages of a war and the freedom of the slaves; but there are other causes. The high price of cotton has induced many to plant their pieces with sugar rather than with sugar-cane. It is more easily worked and gathered; it is not so likely to be weaker injured, and the work is not of such a strenuous character. A planter may pick his cotton and get it at his leisure, but when his cane is cut it must be immediately pressed, and the juice immediately boiled down. Again, in former times, large capital was used and great profits made. The planters who worked on their grand scale are not willing to come down to smaller operations, and but few men have taken their places. Hence, Louisiana, producing in 1840 over 200,000,000 pounds of sugar, now hardly produces 80,000,000 pounds. Again, many of the planters have made their staple crop, and although by no means forming a supply for the country, the new crop of Louisiana has greatly increased since 1865. But with all these facts, no one says that those who are engaged in growing sugar-cane do not make money, and that there is not still room for many more, yet a statement has been made that the cane is decreasing, that there is now less sugar to the amount of six expressed. While there may be some reason in this argument, yet we believe that the trouble comes more in want of care in the selection of seed cane than in any actual deterioration. The evil, poor seed poor fruit, holds good in sugar-cane as in fruit trees, plants and grains.

In a recent, however, that we are not now producing our proper sugar supply, and that immense sums of money are being paid for sugar canes for an article which we should grow on our own soil. While sugar-cane is a tropical plant, yet we have several millions of acres of soil as yet uncultivated which will grow it in perfection, and but fifteen millions of acres where it can be grown as well as in Louisiana before 1880. Northern Florida, although as far south as Southern Louisiana, from its geographical position, has a milder climate, while Southern Florida has a season of perpetual summer, and there the sugar cane thrives and reproduces itself year after year, for as long a time as in any other country of the globe. That there is Southern California, where, we believe, the cane will grow as well as in Louisiana. The soils are all light colored, while that used for the production of sugar in Louisiana has been very dark and full of organic mud. The darker the soil the darker the sugar is a Spanish saying.

We are told that the deficiency may be made up by a production of beet-sugar. We do not believe that this industry will for many years become staple in our land. Even in California, where the early show of success has been attained, the opening up of the northern countries by railroads will induce experiments of a more practical nature with the sugar-cane; and when tried, its evident advantage will force out of the contest its superior competitor. Beet-root sugar is costly, not as sweet by nearly or quite one-half as the cane-sugar; that is, it takes weight for weight, twice the bulk to produce the same degree of sweetness; the beets require much labor in cultivation, the cane but little after the first month or two; the beets require re-planting each year, in a true sugar-cane growing region the cane need be replanted only once in four or five years, as it springs up from the stumps, and in Northern Florida and Louisiana, where the winter is very severe, replanting is only done once in two or three years; so for the molasses or syrup from the beets has only been found of value for the production of an inferior rum, while the syrup of cane-sugar forms a source of profit, and an important part of our food supply.

We conceive, then, that the solution of the question as to our future supply of sugar is in such a liberal policy as to lands and railroads, in those sections where cane-sugar can be profitably produced, or will induce immigration—the production of sugar in those sections by planters on a small scale. Not, however, that we would discourage capital from large operations if it is desired test, but we believe that 100 men working 1000 acres in case in Southern Florida will produce more sugar than can be had by hired labor working 1000 acres. We know by observation that good merchantable sugar can be made in Florida without the vast appliances of Elbers and vacuum pans. That all persons are not equally careful, we are also aware, but those who did not produce sugar directly fit for the table would simply suffice in their pockets, and be at the mercy of the refiners in the cities. Until it is demonstrated that over the more than 1,000,000 acres of tillable land in Florida and California there cannot be produced at least 1000 to the acre, there need be no fear of a sugar famine, nor much prospect of the success of beet-sugar enterprises.—N. F. Fiske.

The Queen.—At the moment when the Queen, hounding down, had the crown placed on her brow, a ray of sunshine fell upon her face and head. The day had been quite dull and grayish over; but with the sudden sunshine upon the diamond in the crown, making a sort of glory around the head of the fair young Queen; giving them, the effect was very striking. And I remember that when Her Majesty was conducted to King Edward's chair—the throne to which the Prince came to swear their allegiance—the Duke of Wellington, having, like the rest, to back down the steps of the throne, threw his robe over his son, and his great military boots were visible under it up to his knees; but still he succeeded in making a safe and ungrateful descent. When, however, among the other Peers, it came to Lord Boller's turn to walk backward, he lost his footing and rolled down. Many were the gay jocosities made upon this poor peer, but never have I heard any mention made of what I myself particularly noticed at the moment, and that was that when poor Lord Boller was stamping backward from the throne, the Queen started forward as though to save him.—*Lady Blessing's Recollections of Society.*

A new case for chills and fever: Poor about half a gill of oil, ten drachms or whisky into each foot, before putting them on in the morning, and put the boots on at noon. Be particular not to get it into the mouth instead of into the boots.

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